

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5061

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E. O.11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, EFIS, EC, NO

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT REACHED ON EC- NORWEGIAN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

REF: EC BRUSSELS 1693

1. SUMMARY: THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND NORWAY HAVE SETTLED THE LAST OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FREE TRADE AGREEMENT. THE NORWEGIANS BELIEVE THAT THEY HAVE A GOOD AGREEMENT TO LAY BEFORE THE STORTING, AND ARE, IN PARTICULAR, PLEASED WITH THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS IN FISH PRODUCTS. THE AGREEMENT WILL BE INITIALED APRIL 16, AND ASIGNED AT THE NEXT EC COUNCIL ( FOREIGN MINISTERS) ON

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MAY 14. THE FIRST TARIFF CUTS ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE JULY 1, END SUMMARY.

2. THE EC AND NORWEGIAN NEGOTIATORS HAVE REACHED A SETTLEMENT ON THE LAST OF THE OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THEIR NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN INDUSTRIAL FREE TRADE AREA. ON UNWROUGHT ALUMINUM, THE COMMUNITY'S INITIAL OFFER OF A FIRST- YEAR QUOTA OF 190,000 TONS WITH ANNUAL INCREASES, HAS BEEN SUPPLEMENTED BY THE ALLOCATION OF AN ADDITIONAL 80,000 TONS FOR " TEMPORARY ADMISSION" TO THE COMMUNITY AND RE- EXPORT AFTER MANUFACTURE. IN THE SECOND YEAR OF THE AGREEMENT, 120,000 TONS COULD BE IMPORTED UNDER THIS PROVISION. IF THE " TEMPORARY ADMISSION" QUOTA IN ONE YEAR IS NOT FULLY USED, THE REMAINDER CAN BE ADDED TO THE BASIC UNWROUGHT ALUMINUM QUOTA FOR THE NEXT YEAR.

3. WHILE " REASONABLY SATISFIED" ON THE INDUSTRIAL SIDE, THE NORWEGIANS ARE " PLEASED" WITH THE FINAL RESULT ON FISH. THE COMMUNITY, WHICH STARTED FROM A POSITION OF NON- INCLUSION OF FISH IN THE AGREEMENT, FINALLY AGREED TO CUT THE TARIFF WITHIN FOUR YEARS TO 3 PERCENT ON FROZEN FISH FILLETS, TO 7 AND A HALF PERCENT ON FROZEN SHRIMP AND TO 12 AND HALF PERCENT ON CANNED SARDINES. WHILE THE NORWEGIANS HAVE BEEN ADAMANT THAT ANY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT HAD TO INCLUDE FROZEN FISH FILLETS, THEY HAD BEEN PRIVATELY SKEPTICAL THAT THEY WOULD SUCCEED IN OBTAINING CONCESSIONS ON SHRIMP AND CANNED SARDINES.

4. PREDICTABLY, THE NORWEGIAN HOPE THAT THE COMMUNITY WOULD AGREE TO SOME EXPLICIT FORMULA FOR MUTUAL CONSULTATIONS ON MARTIME TRANSPORT POLICY HAS NOT BEEN MET. THERE WILL HOWEVER BE AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS WHICH WILL MAKE GENERAL REFERENCE TO THE POSSIBILITY THAT EACH SIDE COULD NAME DELEGATES TO SPECIAL MEETINGS WHICH COULD DISCUSS INTER ALIA MARTIME TRANSPORT POLICY. EVEN THE NORWEGIANS SAY THAT THESE POSSIBLE MEETINGS WILL HAVE TO AWAIT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY POLICY.

5. NO DATE HAS YET BEEN SET FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THAT PART OF THE ACCORD WHICH DEALS WITH THE EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY, BECAUSE OF THE NEED TO AWAIT RATIFICATION BY THE MEMBER STATES. THE " NORWEGIAN MODEL" LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RESEMBLES FAIRLY CLOSELY THE SWEDISH AGREEMENT

ON COAL AND STEEL PRODUCTS, AND WILL MEAN, IN ESSENCE  
THAT NORWEGIAN SHIPBUILDERS WILL BE JUST AS FREE AS  
IN THE PAST TO BUILD AND SELL THEIR SHIPS. HOWEVER, THEY  
MUST INFORM THE COMMISSION OF THE PRICE OF THE STEEL THEY  
USE.

6. COMMENT: THE NORWEGIAN MISSION, MOSTLY BECAUSE OF  
THE GOOD CONCESSIONS ACHIEVED IN FISH PRODUCTS, EXPECTS  
THERE WILL BE NO PROBLEM OBTAINING PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL.

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\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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